Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 48, No. 28 July 10, 1989

Library Holds Concert and Symposium On Songs of Vietnam-Era Soldiers

Bill Ellis (lower right), infantryman, First Cavalry, U.S. Army, performing at a forward firebase in Vietnam (c. 1968). Mr. Ellis will perform at the Library on July 13.

The American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress is presenting a concert and a symposium on the folksong traditions of the Vietnam-era soldier on Thursday, July 13.

Performers and writers of songs sung by soldiers in the field during the early years of the Vietnam War will be featured in the concert, to be held from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Library's Coolidge Auditorium. Among the performers scheduled to appear are Bill Dower, Dolf Droge, Bull Durham, Bill Ellis, and Chuck Rosenberg.

A symposium, "Folksongs in the Military and the Folksong Collection of the Late Gen. Edward Lansdale," will follow from 2 to 4 p.m. in the adjacent Whittall Pavilion. *(Cont. on p. 242)*

Also in This Issue . . .

NAC looks at non-bibliographic databases 242

CRS celebrates 20 years of public policy literature online 243

Staff news 246

Calendar 248

Songs *(Cont. from p. 241)*

"The Lansdale Collection offers historians and others interested in the Vietnam War opportunities to develop surprising new insights into the experiences, emotions, and memories of American soldiers," said the program's organizer Peter Bartis, folklife researcher in the Library's American Folklife Center. "And this program illustrates how the preservation of our collections and the development of public educational programs go hand in hand."

The most important collection of folksongs of the Vietnam War was made by one of the most remarkable personalities to emerge from it, U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Edward Lansdale. The collection is in two parts, the first made while General Lansdale was serving as the head of the Senior Liaison Office of the U.S. Mission in Saigon.

The songs were recorded at General Lansdale's house in Saigon by singers, composers, and musician friends, both American and Vietnamese. These included South Vietnamese government officials, soldiers serving as advisors to the South Vietnamese army, and civilians employed by the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Foreign Service, the U.S. Information Service, and the Central Intelligence Agency. The songs range from the patriotic to the cynical, from classic soldiers' songs about heroic deeds and epic drinking bouts to highly topical satirical songs about the political situation in Vietnam.

Participants in the symposium include Cecil Currey, author of *Edward Lansdale: The Unquiet American;* Lydia Fish, director of the Vietnam Veterans Oral History and Folklore Project, Buffalo State College; and Harold Langley, curator of Naval History, Smithsonian Institution. Both events are free and open to the public.

General Lansdale put together a collection of 51 of these songs, "In the Midst of War," with a narration explaining the circumstances of their composition and performance. He sent copies of the tapes to President Lyndon B. Johnson, members of his cabinet, and several officials in Saigon, including Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge and Gen. William Westmoreland. Since his intention was to "impart a greater understanding of the political and psychological nature of the war to those making decisions," he was in effect using folklore as a device for the transmission of military intelligence.

General Lansdale returned to the United States in 1968, but friends and comrades continued to send him recordings from Vietnam and Thailand, and to drop by his house in Virginia to sing new songs they had written or collected. Thus he was able to put together a second collection of 160 songs entitled "Songs by Americans in the Vietnam War." General Lansdale edited both these collections and provided them with excellent notes. Copies of the two collections were deposited at the Music Division of the Library of Congress in 1975 and 1977, respectively. They offer rich material for folklorists, historians, and other scholars interested in the culture of American soldiers in Vietnam.

Support for this program has been provided by the John W. and Clara C. Higgins Foundation and the Friends of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

NAC Looks at Non-Bibliographic Databases

The Library of Congress Network Advisory Committee (NAC) focused on the growing importance of non-bibliographic databases and the necessity of extending networks to accommodate such data during its latest program session on March 30–31 in Washington, D.C.

Speakers' topics included user perspectives, requirements for sharing non-bibliographic databases with others, and a futuristic look at dissemination of non-bibliographic information. The meeting was organized by Henriette D. Avram, chair of NAC and assistant librarian for processing services at the Library of Congress.

User Perspectives

Rudolph L. Bell of Rutgers University (co-director of the Medieval and Early Modern Data Bank–MEMDB) described the problems of sharing databases lacking code documentation and proper cataloging. Standards and documentation are the prime requisites of sharing data. For a database such as MEMDB, that offers constant updating of information, offline systems such as Compact Disk-Read Only Memory (CD-ROM) are not appropriate. Instead, users with a Personal Computer (PC) and modem will access the Research Libraries Group (RLG) mainframe at Stanford University via telephone lines or dedicated terminals. MEMDB links scholars throughout North America and Western Europe.

(Cont. on p. 244)

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued weekly by the Information Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies, and allied organizations in the United States.

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin,* Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Bruce Tapper, Editor

CRS Celebrates 20th Anniversary of Public Policy Literature Online

Former staff member Janet Biggs and Jack McDonald.

Attendees in the Mumford Room

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the *Congressional Research Service (CRS) Bibliographic Data Base* and the *Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) Service.*

The database and SDI alert users—Members of Congress, their staff members, and the CRS researchers who assist them—to the latest public policy documents available. The *CRS Bibliographic Data Base* is an online (SCORPIO) database listing publications which have a bearing on public policy issues, and the *SDI Service* enables congressional offices to submit keyword profiles of their interests and each week receive abstracts of the materials on those topics most recently added to the *CRS Bibliographic Data Base.*

On April 21, some 200 people gathered in the Mumford Room to celebrate the anniversary of these vitally important congressional services, and to congratulate the staff members of the CRS Library Services Division, the CRS Automation Office, and the Library's Automated Systems Office who have made these services possible.

Jack McDonald, Jr., chief of the Library Services Division, chaired the program. Associate Librarian of Congress Donald Curran offered words of support for the database providers. Janet Biggs, head of the bibliography section of Library Services in the late 1960s, reminisced about the non-automated SDI regime and compared it with the automated version that began during her tenure. Mr. McDonald noted that now, hundreds of thousands of citations later and with a wide Capitol Hill readership, the SDI and the database into which it feeds occupy an important place in the information services CRS supplies to Congress. In its online BIBL version, the database is available to the public in the Library's reading rooms.

Senior cataloger Connie Hardy ceremonially input the 452,000th citation on a projection screen. Joseph Ross, director of CRS, was presented with bibliographies issued during the month of April as a symbol of staff and system capabilities. William Robinson, deputy director of CRS, concluded the program with remarks on information technology and the future.

The celebration featured colorful exhibits, and those attending could view video screens with explanations of the *SDI Service* and optical disc document storage and retrieval. There were displays under the heading "Dome to Dome Service" (Library to Capitol), depicting work flow and products associated with

(Cont. on p. 244)

CRS *(Cont. from p. 243)*

the *CRS Bibliographic Data Base.* A team of bibliographers provided on-demand searches and database demonstrations using a microcomputer. In addition, the workplace as it looked a decade ago was shown in slides from the CRS photo archive.

The innovations of recent years, as described in a publication written for the celebration, show a system evolving to meet user needs better:

☐ SCORPIO enhancements have made possible great flexibility in searching, viewing, and printing, through commands that allow full-text searching, viewing most recent items cited first, calling up a set of citations added in the current week or month, saving a search and executing it periodically on the newest citations, and sending a bibliography created at one terminal to a user located elsewhere. Expected in the near future will be the capability for congressional online ordering of public policy literature, including CRS products. Another anticipated enhancement is direct online input of cataloging information via microcomputer to replace the present batch entry system with typewriter-like terminals.

☐ Some 3,000 current CRS writings have been assembled in a separate database, the *CRS Products* file, to accommodate searching of this core public policy material by congressional staff.

☐ Optical disc is now beginning to be used for full-text retrieval, both for viewing documents at test sites and for on-demand printing for congressional requesters. Once in full operation this could be the primary full-text document system, replacing the present microfiche-based operation.

—Richard Gigax

NAC *(Cont. from p. 242)*

Charles E. Olson, Jr., professor at the School of Natural Resources at the University of Michigan, illustrated the importance of diverse information sources, that is, "multi-data" in research and problem-solving, presently only possible through the "old boy network." Olson posed the question of how the "old boy network" can be automated. He showed in one instance how aerial photographs, geologic records, maps and photographs in published books—information from diverse sources—help to document conditions and changes in land use. He pointed out that traditional cataloging entries will dispose of evidence in photographs or maps with a cryptic "2 maps," or "plates," when the researcher needs vital details of image measurements, such as scale, distance, direction, and area. With new technology it will be possible to present such data, especially graphic data, for easy access by the researcher.

Sharing of Non-bibliographic Data

Dennis D. McDonald, vice president for information products at Online Computer Systems, Inc., identified three major groups of non-bibliographic data: full text, numeric, and graphic. He predicted the following developments: (1) hybrid systems comprising both network and local options will become available for access to non-bibliographic data; (2) local workstation software will become more powerful in its ability to link with specific network applications, resulting in a demand for increased standardization; and (3) the blurring of local versus network access may prove to be a marketing challenge, given the costs inherent in providing both local and network access. Finally, Mr. McDonald identified as critical issues: video versus optical discs, the cost of compression/decompression of data, and questions of downloading, storage, and retrieval.

Forrest B. Williams, chief, Systems and Programming Branch, Data User Services Division of the U.S. Census Bureau, announced that the 1990 U.S. Decennial Census will be on CD-ROM. All data will be contained on roughly 25 discs, and the 1,400 Federal Depository Libraries should begin to gear up with CD-ROM players to make these data available to their users. In fact, the U.S. Census Bureau will begin distributing data from other statistical programs on CD-ROM even before the 1990 Census is available.

Use of Non-bibliographic Data

Ward Shaw, executive director of the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries (CARL), described the Tandem-based network and its more than 25 non-bibliographic databases. UNCOVER, a growing non-bibliographic database, indexes some 10,000 journals subscribed to by member libraries of CARL. The database, processed centrally, is one of the most widely used. The critical question for CARL is what should be offered in an online environment. To date, the volume of use has been a reasonably reliable indicator of a successful database.

RLG is getting involved in providing the researcher with timely access to research and grant-related information. Constance Gould, program development officer at RLG, summed up the problem. While established scholars are on the invisible network and receive numerous pre-prints, the young researcher without such connections must rely on legitimate literature access which is too slow. There are many private data files and most are unaccessible. Files created by governmental agencies and public universities are basically not always accessible. To justify the cost of their development, they should be widely used, Gould maintained.

C. James Schmidt, vice president and director of RLG's Research

Libraries Information Network (RLIN), said that start-up funds for the development of non-bibliographic databases may be available from foundations and through grants, but such projects then entail unavoidable operational costs and the determination of access fees to meet these costs. A second critical issue, according to Mr. Schmidt, is access mode, that is, CD-ROM versus online. Nature and frequency of use as well as frequency of updates are the deciding factors, he said. Frequent updates eliminate CD-ROM as a practical medium as does its slow response time.

Networks for the 21st Century

Kenneth E. Dowlin, director of the San Francisco Public Library, gave NAC a look at dissemination of non-bibliographic online information in the future and the library of the 21st century with a video presentation of plans for a new $100 million library for his city. He maintained that basic requirements are linkages and authority control to link information in order to offer easy-to-use intellectual pathways guiding the user through the maze of multi-data information sources. He stressed the need for the process to be transparent to the user and the importance of preserving the contextual aspects of information. Much electronic information is so specific as to be totally useless when out of context, he said. Mr. Dowlin's plans call for a logical expansion of an information system featuring electronic mail, a bulletin board and directory of resources, and other information as the hub—first to be used internally by the library itself, then extended to the city, and finally beyond to a wide net of user groups.

In closing, Mr. Dowlin said that nationally, the Library of Congress must become the focal point and hub of the knowledge network of the United States, with the Library of Congress Network Advisory Committee as the link upon which regional and local efforts may be built.

Conclusion and Next Steps

A plenary session of NAC concluded the meeting. Major issues identified were the problem of user access, non-standard public interfaces to myriad online sources (a small subcommittee has been appointed to review what exists and to report back to NAC), pressure on libraries to be interpreters of an increasingly complex information environment, and the growing demand for full text, numeric, and graphic electronic information resources.

Standardization issues, criteria for the selection of quality database access, and lack of timeliness of available information were felt to be some of the barriers to research. NAC members concluded that it would be useful, if possible, to determine the scope of the problem by looking at current listings of available non-bibliographic databases.

As the focus of its next meeting, November 29–December 1, NAC decided to revisit the national document delivery scene and to assess how newer technology has influenced and is changing current practices in document delivery.

Program Planners

Sandra K. Paul, president of SKP Associates, representing the Association of American Publishers (AAP), chaired the program subcommittee for the March meeting. Other members included Henriette D. Avram; Chuck Broadbent III, Pittsburgh Regional Library Center (PRLC); James P. Riley (now retired), Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC); and C. James Schmidt, RLG.

The above summary is based on a report submitted by Erika Love, director, Medical Center Library at the University of New Mexico. The complete minutes of the March meeting, containing the speakers' papers, will be published as No. 19 in the *Network Planning Paper* series. An announcement will be made when the publication is available for purchase from the Customer Services Section of the Library's Cataloging Distribution Service. For additional information, contact the NAC secretariat (Sigrid G. Harriman) at the Network Development and MARC Standards Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC, 20540; or call (202) 707-5956.

The Library of Congress observes
TWO HUNDRED YEARS
Congress

Congress Bicentennial Programs

Exhibition

The Tides of Party Politics: Two Centuries of Congressional Elections, 1789–1989.

A display of one hundred maps of congressional elections.

Madison Foyer, to July 30.

Publication

Respectfully Quoted: A Dictionary of Quotations Requested from the Congressional Research Service. (520 pp.)

Available by mail for $29 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 (cite stock no. 030-001-0016-4).

STAFF NEWS

SAVE THIS DATE!

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

FAMILY DAY

Saturday, September 16
1-5 p.m.
Madison Plaza

Watch the LC *Information Bulletin* for further details.

Staff Activities

Michael Albin, chief of the Order Division, gave two lectures at the University of Bergen in Norway on April 27-28. The first lecture dealt with the acquisition and organization of Middle Eastern collections in U.S. research libraries. The second lecture was an illustrated talk entitled, "Arabic Incunabula, or Rare Books in the Arabic World."

Mr. Albin also wrote a review essay, "Recent Studies in Middle Eastern Printing History," that appeared in *Libraries and Culture* (Summer 1989). The May issue of *College and Research Libraries News* carried his article, "Refugee and Exile Publishing in Western Europe."

Henriette D. Avram, assistant librarian for processing services, was a keynote speaker at the "Simmons College Symposium on Recruiting, Educating, and Training Cataloging Librarians," held in Boston, Mass., March 10-11. Twenty-eight educators and practitioners presented papers at the symposium, which was sponsored by the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science and funded by a grant from the Council on Library Resources.

For her keynote address at the session on training cataloging librarians, Mrs. Avram spoke on the topic, "Developing Catalogers for the Nation: Problems and Issues in Training Cataloging Librarians for the Future." She called on library educators and administrators to impress upon catalogers a sense of the importance of their work, which affects the quality not only of local databases but national and international ones as well.

Among the other topics considered at the symposium were alternative avenues available for recruiting catalogers to the profession, making cataloging interesting, the cataloging educator's challenge, and the role of training in the changing cataloging environment.

Bruce Miller, network librarian–microcomputer systems, and **Erik Delfino,** network librarian, both of the Federal Library and Information Center Committee (FLICC) and its FEDLINK network, spoke at the fourth annual meeting of the Electronic Networking Association on May 27 at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa.

They served with Karl Schneider of the National Agricultural Library on a resource panel on Federal government electronic bulletin boards. Mr. Miller and Mr. Delfino operate ALIX, a widely used electronic bulletin board, for the Library Automation Resource Service (LARS) at FEDLINK.

Mr. Miller conducted a Regional Library Software Workshop on May 22-23 in San Antonio, Tex. The workshop was jointly sponsored by FLICC/FEDLINK and the Strughold Aeromedical Library of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine. The 16 participating Federal librarians tried and compared more than 20 microcomputer-based library software packages. This was the first of a series of regional library software workshops that FLICC/FEDLINK network librarians are planning to conduct in cooperation with Federal libraries and information centers.

LCPA Seeks Volunteers For WETA Fundraiser

The Library of Congress Professional Association (LCPA) has once again volunteered to supply 35 Library of Congress staff members to work the phone bank during an evening of WETA's August Membership Drive. Volunteers will answer incoming pledge calls from 6:45 to 11:45 p.m. on Friday, August 25. Everyone is asked to commit themselves for the entire evening.

Past volunteers have enjoyed the food, the fellowship, the behind-the-scenes glimpse, and the chance to be on TV. To volunteer call Arun Acharya, ext. 79593.

Ruth Eisenhart Dies

Ruth C. Eisenhart, a former associate editor of the *National Union Catalog Pre-1956 Imprints,* died April 7 in Washington, D.C. Miss Eisenhart

(Cont. on p. 247)

STAFF NEWS

Emmerich Oswald Dies

Emmerich Oswald, subject cataloger in the Social Sciences I Section of the Subject Cataloging Division, died on March 9 at Fairfax Hospital.

Mr. Oswald was born in 1939 in Vaskeresztes, Hungary. At the age of eight, he fled with his family to Austria. He came to the United States in 1954 and settled in Northampton, Pa. He did his undergraduate studies at the California State University, Fullerton.

In 1969 Mr. Oswald took his first job at the Library of Congress as a descriptive cataloger in the German Section of Shared Cataloging. Within a year he became a subject cataloger, but then left the Library to do postgraduate work.

He earned a master's degree in European diplomatic history from Georgetown University and was a Ph.D. candidate at Catholic University. He worked for the Catholic Historical Review, the U.S. Army Center for Military History, the Catholic University of America Library, Xerox Bibliographics, and the Bureau of Social Science Research.

In 1975 Mr. Oswald came back to the Library of Congress and worked as a research analyst in the Federal Research Division until 1984, when he returned to subject cataloging.

In all of these positions, Mr. Oswald's scholarship, research abilities, and language skills made him a valuable staff member. In the words of a former supervisor, he was the "gentleman scholar par excellence."

Mr. Oswald (known to his friends as "Jim") was also an avid collector of postage stamps, a first rate conversationalist, an enthusiastic athlete, and a devoted husband and father.

In addition to his wife and two sons, Mr. Oswald is survived by his father and sister.

Eisenhart *(Cont. from p. 246)*
retired from the Library of Congress in 1979 after completing the editorial work on the Bible entries that comprise four of the catalog's 754 volumes.

A native of Binghamton, N.Y., Miss Eisenhart received her bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke College and her library science degree from Columbia University. Before coming to the Library of Congress she had a distinguished career as a cataloger, working for eight years at Yale University and for 27 years at Union Theological Seminary.

At the International Conference on Cataloging Principles, held in Paris in 1961, she presented a paper on cataloging liturgies and religious texts in the alphabetical catalog. In 1966, at the invitation of the Association of Theological Schools of Southeast Asia, Miss Eisenhart assisted in conducting a series of two-week area workshops for theological librarians in Southeast Asia.

Miss Eisenhart resigned from Union Theological Seminary in 1967 to join the National Union Catalog Publication Project at the London offices of the catalog's publisher, Mansell Publishing. In 1969 she joined the Washington, D.C., staff as an associate catalog editor.

In her retirement Miss Eisenhart worked as a volunteer for the Christ Church Georgetown Thrift Shop and as an income tax adviser for the elderly for the American Association for Retired Persons. Among the leisure activities she enjoyed were the Washington Opera, Folger Shakespeare Library plays, and nature and bird-watching expeditions.

Personnel Changes

Appointments: Mary Ellen Hatfield, library technician, GS–5, CIP, 90058; Andre D. Montgomery, library technician, GS–4, Bind, 90207.

Temporary Appointments: Agnes A. Attamensah, clerk, GS–1, Cop Inf & Ref; John Dehl, clerk, GS–1, Cop Rec & Proc; Lisa R. McCoy, library aid, GS–1, Afr/ME; Curtis D. Porter, library aid, GS–1, CRS L; Mark A. Smith, clerk, GS–1, Cop Exam; Lillian B. Spence, library technician, GS–4, Col Mgmt, G119G; Karen A. Storms, sales counter attendant, GS–3, AL/NP, N201C.

Reappointments: Diane R. Burrell, library aid, GS–3, CIP, 81050; Thomas Coipuram, clerk, GS–4, CRS C; Shaun A. Houston, library aid, GS–3, Ser; Andrea F. Svejda, management clerk, GS–3, CRS; Jana M. Svejda, management clerk, GS–3, CRS; Curtis D. Porter, library aid, GS–1, CRS L.

Transfers: Leonard Hodges, supervisory librarian, GS–12, Proc, 90070.

Promotions: Elizabeth Miller, senior librarian, GS–13, Proc, 90263; Thomas R. Wenner, supervisory librarian, GS–12, E & G, 90096.

Resignations: Jake K. Appetta, supervisory computer specialist, GS–14, CDS; Cindy Brown, computer technician, GS–5, ASO; Sylvia G. Cox, clerk, GS–5, CRS PGM; Carlotta M. Davis, computer programming assistant, GS–7, ASO; Dietrich Davis, staffing specialist, GS–9, R & P; Eugene Levitzky, supervisory librarian, GS–9, Cop Dep & Acq; Marjorie A. Lundquist, industrial hygienist, GS–12, Safety; Constance R. Snowden, library aid, GS–1, CRS Gov; William F. Woldman, social science analyst, GS–12, CRS Gov.

Staff Carpool Locator

Rider/driver seeks to join carpool from Annapolis area. Schedule is 6:30 a.m.–3 p.m. Call Mary, ext. 71806.

Rider seeks to join carpool from Daventry subdivision in Springfield, Va. Schedule is 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Thursday and Friday. Call Betsy Woytko, ext. 77130 or 644–1472.

Meetings and Events Around the Library

Friday, July 14
☐ "The French Revolution, Xavier Mina, and Revolutionary Movements in Ibero-America, 1789–1817," Guadalupe Jiménez Codinach, Archival Survey Project, Library of Congress. Hispanic Cultural Society. Dining Room A, 12 noon.

Tuesday, July 18
☐ "Readers Theater," Jim Humphrey, managing artistic director, World Stage. LCPA. Room LM 642, 12:10 p.m.

Wednesday, July 26
☐ "Master Contract Negotiations at the Library of Congress," Martin F. O'Donoghue, labor relations officer: Labor Relations Seminar. West Dining Room, 10:30–11:30 a.m. **For managers and supervisors only.**

Thursday, July 27
☐ "Experiences as a CLR Academic Library Management Intern at Princeton," Sarah Pritchard, head, Microform Reading Room. LCPA. Room LM 642, 12:10 p.m.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
CENTRAL SERVICES DIVISION
PRINTING AND PROCESSING SECTION
WASHINGTON, DC 20540

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE $300

250

1989 YEAR OF THE YOUNG READER

FIRST CLASS

0163206 005
Univ Microfilms International
ATTN Serials Acquisitions Dept
300 North Zeeb Road
Ann Arbor MI 48106

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
INFORMATION BULLETIN
ISSN 0041-7904

If you wish to be removed from the mailing list for this publication check here ☐ and return this page to the above address. If change is required enter on address label and return.